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Letter from Camp Bowie, Texas, April 1942

Ralph Mouw

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Hq Btry, 1st Bn
717th Field Artillery
Camp Bowie, Tex

Dear folks.

Received your beautiful Easter
Greetings and letter and am
very sorry to hear that you are
feeling low Dad. Its very nice
of you to think of coming up to
see me but really Dad you don't
have to come up for me I'm
getting along O.K. and then again we
might be somewhere in the field
when and if you did come I then
I still wouldn't get to see you.

But in the meantime you needn't worry Dad about my leaving just yet because it seems at times we are a long way from going.

We really had quite a week of it so far. On Monday we were in the field and dug a sort of cave so that we could work under ground in the Command Post. Late in the evening we watched a couple of Texan Long Horns fight across a fence - some fun. On Tuesday we were paid again so now I have a little money in my pocket. On Wednesday we had a conditioning run in which we ran and walked a distance a little over 5 miles in less than an hour. On Thursday we were out in the field and I got a little sick to my stomach so I just lay on the ground hoping it would go over but it didn't so this morning I went to the infirmary and was given several large capsules one of which was to be taken every 3 hrs. so tonight I am feeling better but a little weak since I haven't eaten anything for the last 5 meals.

I hope I feel well enough to make the hike in the morning.

I seem to have run out of my news so I'll just close now, Dad & I hope you are over your blues - just keep your chin up

and have faith - that's what
I am doing -

Lots of Love

Your Son

Ralph